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TRENDS

ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICAN
RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, July 23, 1992 -- Carloadings on the nation's major railroads showed a slight decline from year-earlier levels during the week ended July 18, 1992, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

"The 0.2 percent drop in carloadings was spurred by declines in the three highest-volume commodities carried by railroads: coal, down 6.9 percent; grain, down 3.6 percent; and chemicals, down 0.2 percent," said Dr. Harvey A. Levine, vice president of the AAR's economics and finance department.

Overall, carloadings totaled 324,033 for the week ended July 18, down 0.2 percent from the comparable week in 1991. Loadings were up 3.2 percent in the West but down 3.3 percent in the East.

Intermodal volume, which is not included in carloadings, totaled 129,512 trailers and containers, up 7.5 percent from the corresponding 1991 week. Total traffic was estimated at 20.4 billion ton-miles, the same as a year earlier.

Dr. Levine noted that "cumulative change in railroad carloadings remained at a positive 2.0 percent. This reflects the relatively modest growth in the nation's economy so far this year."

For the first 29 weeks of 1992, carloadings totaled 9,286,304, up 2.0 percent from the first 29 weeks of 1991. Intermodal volume totaled 3,578,568, up 7.9 percent. Ton-miles were estimated at 584.8 billion, up 4.0 percent.

Railroads reporting to the AAR account for 94 percent of carloadings and 97 percent of intermodal traffic.

(more)

WEEKLY TRAFFIC OF MAJOR RAILROADS
FOR THE WEEK ENDING JULY 18, 1992

CARLOADS ORIGINATED, BY COMMODITY GROUP

COMMODITY	WEEK ENDING JULY 18, 1992	COMPARISON WITH SAME WEEK OF 1991	CHANGE	COMPARISON WITH PRECEDING WEEK	CHANGE
Grain	26,592	27,590	-3.6 %	26,180	1.6 %
Farm Products, Ex. Grain	1,723	1,057	63.0	1,964	-12.3
Metallic Ores	20,900	17,069	22.4	21,063	-0.8
Coal	117,622	126,356	-6.9	108,619	8.3
Crushed Stone, Sand & Gravel	15,265	14,201	7.5	14,617	4.4
Nonmetallic Minerals	10,105	9,047	11.7	9,152	10.4
Grain Mill Products	9,699	9,959	-2.6	9,713	-0.1
Food & Kindred Products	8,736	8,495	2.8	8,650	1.0
Primary Forest Products	9,673	9,530	1.5	8,898	8.7
Lumber & Wood Products	5,533	5,458	1.4	5,261	5.2
Pulp, Paper & Allied Products	10,556	10,387	1.6	10,920	-3.3
Chemicals	26,867	26,928	-0.2	28,219	-4.8
Petroleum Products	5,923	5,419	9.3	6,090	-2.7
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	9,670	9,620	0.5	9,725	-0.6
Coke	5,958	5,230	13.9	5,953	0.1
Metals & Products	8,839	9,209	-4.0	8,393	5.3
Motor Vehicles & Equipment	14,566	13,648	6.7	13,028	11.8
Waste & Scrap Materials	8,672	8,064	7.5	8,008	8.3
All Other Carloads	7,134	7,323	-2.6	6,975	2.3
Total	**324,033**	**324,590**	**-0.2 %**	**311,428**	**4.0 %**

SUMMARY: CARLOADS ORIGINATED, INTERMODAL TRAFFIC AND ESTIMATED TON-MILES

TRAFFIC	WEEK ENDING JULY 18, 1992 1992	1991	CHANGE	CUMULATIVE: 29 WEEKS ENDING JULY 18, 1992 1992	1991	CHANGE
Carloads Originated	**324,033**	**324,590**	**-0.2 %**	**9,286,304**	**9,107,128**	**2.0 %**
Intermodal Traffic Originated						
Trailers	62,620	59,487	5.3	1,772,321	1,711,575	3.5
Containers	66,892	61,019	9.6	1,806,247	1,604,413	12.6
Total	**129,512**	**120,506**	**7.5**	**3,578,568**	**3,315,988**	**7.9**
Estimated Ton-Miles						
Class I Railroads (Billions)	**20.4**	**20.4**	**0.0 %**	**584.8**	**562.1**	**4.0 %**

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